

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Claim 1. A method of playing a conventional single hand video poker game in which different pay tables are randomly designated comprising:

- a) providing at least two pay tables, each pay table having a different payout for at least one of a winning hand combination;
- b) designating which pay table is to be used in the play of the video poker game;
- c) playing the conventional video poker game; and
- d) awarding the player a payout for a winning hand combination from the designated pay table.

Claim 2. The method of Claim 1 in which each pay table has associated therewith a color and the color of the designated pay table is displayed to the player.

Claim 3. The method of Claim 2 in which the color of the designated pay table is displayed to the player by

associating the color with playing cards used in the method of play.

Claim 4. The method of Claim 1 in which the designated pay table is randomly selected.

Claim 5. The method of Claim 1 in which each pay table has a different theoretical game return.

Claim 6. The method of Claim 5 in which at least one of the pay tables has a theoretical game return in excess of 100%.

Claim 7. The method of Claim 6 in which the designated pay table is randomly selected using a weighting system so that the overall game return is less than 100%.

Claim 8. A method of playing a conventional multiple hand video poker game in which different pay tables are randomly designated comprising:

- a) providing at least two pay tables, each pay table

having a different payout for at least one of a winning hand combination;

b) designating at least one of the pay tables as a pay table to be used in the play of the video poker game;

c) playing the conventional video poker game; and

d) awarding the player a payout for a winning hand combination from the designated pay table.

Claim 9. The method of Claim 8 in which each pay table has associated therewith a color and the color of the designated pay table is displayed to the player.

Claim 10. The method of Claim 9 in which the color of the designated pay table is displayed to the player by associating the color with playing cards used in the method of play.

Claim 11. The method of Claim 8 in which the designated pay table is randomly selected.

Claim 12. The method of Claim 8 in which each pay table has a different theoretical game return.

Claim 13. The method of Claim 12 in which at least one of the pay tables has a theoretical game return in excess of 100%.

Claim 14. The method of Claim 13 in which the designated pay table is randomly selected using a weighting system so that the overall game return is less than 100%.

Claim 15. The method of Claim 8 in which a single pay table is designated to be used with each of multiple hands.

Claim 16. The method of Claim 8 in which at least a first pay table is designated to be used with some of the multiple hands and at least a second pay table is designated to be used with others of the multiple hands.

Claim 17. The method of Claim 8 in which the multiple hands comprise at least two hands and a single pay table is

designated to be used with each of multiple hands.

Claim 18. The method of Claim 8 in which the multiple hands comprise at least two hands and a first pay table is designated to be used with a first of the multiple hands and a second pay table is designated to be used a second of the multiple hands.